

To Members of the California Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 3092 because I support reducing illegal tobacco sales to minors. However, I do not believe AB 3092 goes far enough to solve the problem.

AB 2443 (Daucher), sponsored by the Department of Health Services, would also have increased fines for not posting age-of-sale warning signs. In addition, it would have authorized local law enforcement agencies to enforce the Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement (STAKE) Act.

According to the Department of Health Services, one of out seven retailers continue to sell tobacco to youth. The most effective way to ensure that retailers do not sell tobacco to minors is through continual enforcement. AB 2443 would have provided the flexibility for local jurisdictions that place a priority on enforcing illegal tobacco sales to keep tobacco out of the hands of California's youth.

I encourage the Legislature to work with the Department of Health Services to develop cost-effective enforcement solutions that keep tobacco products out of the hands of our children.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger